

From heaven high I come to you

Melody from Leipzig, 1539

From High Heaven
LM

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and contains a melody of eighth and quarter notes, starting on a G4 and ending on a G4 with an accent mark. The lower staff is in bass clef and contains a harmonic accompaniment of chords and moving lines, primarily using whole and half notes.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. It begins with a measure rest marked '5'. The melody in the upper staff continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending on a G4 with an accent mark. The bass staff continues with harmonic accompaniment, including a key signature change to one sharp (F#) indicated by a sharp sign and the number 8.

The third system of musical notation concludes the piece. It begins with a measure rest marked '8'. The melody in the upper staff continues with eighth and quarter notes, ending on a G4. The bass staff continues with harmonic accompaniment, ending with a final chord marked with the number 8.

From Heaven above to earth I come,
To bear good news to every home;
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,
Whereof I now will say and sing.

To you, this night, is born a Child
Of Mary, chosen mother mild;
This little Child, of lowly birth,
Shall be the joy of all your earth.

'Tis Christ our God, who far on high
Had heard your sad and bitter cry;
Himself will your Salvation be,
Himself from sin will make you free.

He brings those blessings, long ago
Prepared by God for all below;
Henceforth His kingdom open stands
To you, as to the angel bands.

These are the tokens ye shall mark:
The swaddling-clothes and manger dark:
There ye shall find the Infant laid
By whom the heav'ns and earth were made.

Now let us all with gladsome cheer
Go with the shepherds and draw near
To see the precious gift of God,
Who hath his own dear Son bestowed.

Welcome to earth, thou noble Guest,
Through whom the sinful world is blest!
In my distress thou com'st to me;
What thanks shall I return to thee?

Martin Luther